State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, since December 1867, the Order of the Patrons and Husbandry,

better known as the Grange, has advocated on behalf of

agricultural communities and families; and

WHEREAS, as the nation's oldest national agricultural organization, the

Grange now has more than 150,000 members in near 2,000

communities in 37 states; and

WHEREAS, the Grange provides service to agriculture and rural areas on a

wide variety of issues including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a

strong and viable Rural America; and

WHEREAS, formed in the years following the Civil War to unite private

citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population, the Grange now includes non-farm rural individuals and families in strengthening our communities and providing a social gathering place for activities and recreation, a place to develop skills for a lifetime, and a family-oriented

organization that provides lifetime membership.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2017 as

GRANGE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2017.

Philip B. Scott Governor

Brittney I Wilson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs